

Plans Launched for Week To Salute Chemical Firms

Officials and executives of one of Southern California's fastest growing industries yesterday launched plans for the second annual observance of Chemical Progress Week, May 16 to 21.

Approximately 50 representatives of Southern California's \$500,000,000 chemical industry and allied companies met at luncheon at the Biltmore to make plans for this area in a nationwide program to highlight the role played by chemistry in making the American standard of living the highest in the world. More than 100 companies will participate in the activities in this area.

John Stauffer, vice president and director of Stauffer Chemical Co., presided at the luncheon at Southern California Chairman of Chemical Progress Week.

Although the observance is national in scope, Stauffer said,

it is particularly significant in Southern California because the represents one of the fastest growing segments of the economy in this area.

"Chemistry is much more than a rapidly growing industry," Stauffer told the gathering. "It represents a contribution to every hour in the life of every individual in the United States."

Creates New Wealth
Stauffer pointed out that the chemical industry not only is important in itself to the American way of life but it is producing new discoveries that give birth to entire new industries such as plastics, synthetic fibers and fabrics, and others. Among everyday items in which chemistry plays a part are foods, wearing apparel, building materials, household appliances, and hundreds of other items that contribute to the American standard of living.

During Chemical Progress Week, civic groups and other organizations will join in honoring the chemistry of Southern California.

Local Salute Planned
Local observance of the week is being planned with Martens Voogd and G. S. Williamson of Shell-Torrance making arrangements to tell the chemical story to local residents.

As a prelude the observance of Chemical Progress Week, the Torrancia Chamber of Commerce breakfast for May, which will be held Tuesday morning, May 10, is being devoted to the chemical industries of Torrancia.

Art Otsea, vice president and manager of the California Bank here has been named chairman

B'nai B'rith Lodge Plans Football Night

Football will be the topic of the April 21 meeting of the South Ray B'nai B'rith lodge with movies of the 1954 Los Angeles Rams games, and Ram player Tom Fears slated at 8:30 p.m. at 112 1/2 N. Catalina Ave., Redondo Beach.

Part of a series of sports nights at the lodge, the programs open to anyone who wishes to attend. Further information can be obtained from Bernard Yeskin at FA 8-4888.

New Dentist Opens Office

Dr. Robert M. Hauck, DDS, has opened a dental office at 2405 Torrancia Blvd., taking over the practice and facilities of Dr. Thurlow Weir, who moved to Chino.

A dentist for two years with the Navy and later with the Los Angeles School system, Dr. Hauck plans to practice general dentistry. A graduate of the University of Detroit he is a member of the Dental Assn. and Psi Omega, dental fraternity.

Man Loses Hub Caps

His hub caps were stolen from his car while he was attending the circus at 220th and Abalone Sts. Wednesday night, R. C. Hamilton, of 4004 W. 168th St., reported to Torrancia Police.

Songwriter May Hit the Bigtime

By REID BUNDY

Out this week on the Ac-cent label is a new song by a Torrancia songwriter who has been plugging away seriously at the business for nearly 10 years.

Written over a period of nearly seven months by John McGuire, of 1811 Marinette St., the new song, entitled "Believing," has catchy lyrics, a good tune, and the promise of a bright future. John played the song for me this week, and I'm still humming the tune.

Bob Hunter, an Ac-cent regular, is featured on the vocal and he is backed up by the Ac-cent's, the Hollywood recording company's own vocal group. Scott Seely and his orchestra complete the recording team.

McGuire, who is a laboratory inspector at the Union Oil Co. refinery in Wilmington, has been putting in a lot of serious work on songwriting for the past 10 years, he told me at his home this week. "Believing" is about the 28th song written by McGuire, and is the first to be pressed by a recording company. He now has "seven or eight" under contract to other publishers, and is sure that one or two of these has a good chance to make the grade commercially. Of course, he hopes all of them will.

Eight Firms Interested
"Believing" is still the one which may put him in the song-writing business for sure, however. Eight New York recording companies have agreed to press the platter.

Best commitment he's had so far, McGuire reports, is the New York company who has said they want Archie Bleyer and Julius LaRosa to make the record.

As a background for his songwriting attempts, McGuire studied piano for about five years, studied lyric writing at UCLA, and has read widely along all lines pertaining to the profession.

Busy Since 1946
He wrote his first song at the age of 17 and has done it off and on ever since. He has concentrated on making it a paying thing since 1946, however. That is when he came to California to go to work in the Union Oil laboratory.

A full-scale promotion of the new song was launched this week by Ac-cent with Vocalist



SONGWRITER JOHN MCGUIRE

... Hits the Air With Disc.

Bob Hunter taking a generous supply of the records under his arm and heading out to visit all the top disc jockeys in the nation to get it on the air.

Spinning the record will be started on Southland stations this week. And listening for it

at the McGuire home will be John's wife, Betty, and the couple's two children, Stephen, 10, and Karen, 8—both students at Torrancia Elementary school. "I'll be listening too. I'd like to hear it again."

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